— SUBJECT TO CHANGE —

**Time:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1:10 PM – 2:05 PM

**Classroom:** Centennial 2310 / Wing Technology 16

**Professor:** Dr. David Mathias

**email:** dmathias@uw.lax.edu

**website:** https://www.cs.uwlax.edu/~dmathias

**Office:** Wing Technology 212

**Office Hours:** Monday 11:00 – 12:00, Tuesday 3:00 – 4:00, Wednesday 11:00 – 12:00 and Friday 11:00 – 12:00, or by appointment.


Note that the text book is available at Amazon as well as used book websites. However, it is also available for free (legitimately) from:

https://greenteapress.com/wp/think-python/

There are two editions of the book. The first covers Python 2, which will be our primary focus, while the second covers Python 3. I recommend downloading both.

**Learning Management System:** We will use Canvas in this course.

**Catalog Description:** Four hours. This course presents the syntax and semantics of a particular programming language. Different offerings of the course will present different languages. Students are expected to be fluent in another programming language prior to enrollment.
Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Understand the syntax and semantics of the following elements of Python:
  - Simple data types including bool, int, float, complex
  - Collection data types including string, tuple, list, set, dictionary
  - Other built-in types including File, Function, Class, Method
  - Operators and expressions involving:
    - relational operators: <, >, <=, >=, ==, !=, <>, is, is not
    - arithmetic operators: +, -, /, *, %, **
    - logical operators: not, and, or
    - list comprehension
  - Control flow including loops and conditionals
- Understand the difference between classes and objects
- Write classes and create and use objects
- Understand file I/O
- Understand and implement programs that utilize the above topics

Programming Assignments: One of the largest components of your grade in this course is outside-of-class programming assignments. The only way to learn how to program is by programming. You will not be successful in this class unless you write your own code. I encourage you to study with others and to discuss concepts and ideas with classmates. However, you must write and submit your own work.

Rules for program submission:

- Programs are due at 11:59 PM on the due date. There is a long and proud tradition of programs being due at that time. You are, of course, welcome to submit well before the deadline.
- Late submissions are accepted up to 48 hours after they are due. Up to 24 hours late, there is a 20% penalty. Up to 48 hours late, there is a 50% penalty. Programs will not be accepted more than 48 hours late.
- You must include the following at the top of your program file: a block comment with the following information (in this order): your name, the assignment number, the due date, and a brief description of the assignment.
- Comment your code. Good commenting is critical.
- Adhere to the coding conventions we discuss in class. I don’t care that your uncle’s wife’s cousin told you to do things differently. There are many ways to format code and I don’t claim that my way is the right way but it will be much easier for us to talk about code if we all use a common format.
Evaluation and Assessment:

- 25% – Programming assignments
- 10% – In-class programming & activities
- 20% – Project
- 25% – Quizzes (approximately 10, equally weighted)
- 20% – Final exam

There will be no makeup exams or quizzes except with advance notice (at least one week) of an approved UWL activity or with a doctor’s note confirming serious illness. In all cases, it is the student’s responsibility to provide written documentation. Late assignments will not be accepted except as outlined in this syllabus. There will be no extra-credit work.

Grading Scale: Letter grades will be assigned according to the table below. Let $x$ be your numeric score for the course:

- A: $x \geq 93$
- AB: $89 \leq x < 93$
- B: $83 \leq x < 89$
- BC: $79 \leq x < 83$
- C: $70 \leq x < 79$
- D: $60 \leq x < 70$
- F: $x < 60$

Attendance: I do not take attendance. However, attending class is almost always a very good idea. Knowledge is not poured into your head as water into a glass. Learning requires engaging with the course. This includes asking questions, answering questions, completing in-class exercises, etc.

In-class programming: During most weeks, we will meet in the CS department lab, 16 Wing Technology Center, on Monday. During these sessions, you will be given a manageable programming assignment to complete. You are encouraged to work in pairs. While completion of the assignment is the goal, credit will be given based on making a good faith effort to solve the problem.

Academic Integrity: Academic misconduct is a violation of the UWL Student Honor Code (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/academicpolicies/studentconduct) and is unacceptable. I expect you to submit your own original work and participate in the course with integrity and high standards of academic honesty. When appropriate, cite original sources, following the style rules of our discipline.
PLEASE NOTE that whenever a grade penalty is imposed due to academic misconduct, the instructor is required to write a letter documenting the misconduct. Copies are sent to the student, to the Office of Student Life (where the letter remains on file in the student’s record), and to the Dean of the student’s College. Refer to: https://www.uwlax.edu/student-life/student-resources/student-handbook for a detailed definition of academic misconduct, and for possible sanctions and consequences. The Office of Student Life can also assist.

Plagiarism or cheating in any form may result in failure of the assignment or the entire course, and may include harsher sanctions. Refer to the Student Handbook #14.02 for a detailed definition of academic misconduct.

For helpful information on how to avoid plagiarism, go to “Avoiding Plagiarism” on the Murphy Library website (http://libguides.uwlax.edu/plagiarism2). You may also visit the Office of Student Life (https://www.uwlax.edu/student-life/) if you have questions about plagiarism or cheating incidents. Failure to understand what constitutes plagiarism or cheating is not a valid excuse for engaging in academic misconduct.

Eagle Alert System: This class is participating in the Eagle Alert System: https://www.uwlax.edu/academic-advising-center/eagle-alert/student-resources through WINGS. The system is designed to promote student success. If I notice that you are experiencing difficulties early in the semester (e.g., low assignment scores or limited participation), I may note this information and you will receive an email indicating that I have entered feedback. I may also enter positive feedback encouraging you to consider additional learning opportunities. The link in the email will take you to WINGS where you can login to see the feedback. I encourage you to meet with me and/or refer to the helpful campus resources listed below under Academic Services and Resources and on UWL’s Student Success page https://www.uwlax.edu/info/student-success.

Inclusive Excellence: UWL’s core values include “Diversity, equity, and the inclusion and engagement of all people in a safe campus climate that embraces and respects the innumerable different perspectives found within an increasingly integrated and culturally diverse global community” (https://www.uwlax.edu/chancellor/mission). If you are not experiencing my class in this manner, please come talk to me about your experiences so I can try to adjust the course if possible.

Student Evaluation of Instruction: UWL conducts student evaluations electronically. Approximately 2 weeks prior to the conclusion of a course, you will receive an email at your UWL email address directing you to complete an evaluation for each of your courses. In-class time will be provided for students to complete the evaluation in class. Electronic reminders will be sent if you do not complete the evaluation. The evaluation will include numerical ratings and, depending on the department, may provide options for comments. The university takes student feedback very seriously and the information gathered from student evaluations
is more valuable when a larger percentage of students complete the evaluation. Please be especially mindful to complete the surveys.

**Useful Resources:** The following links are provided for your convenience. This is not an exhaustive list of services available on campus.

ACCESS Center: [http://www.uwlax.edu/access-center](http://www.uwlax.edu/access-center)

Student Support Services: [http://www.uwlax.edu/student-support-services](http://www.uwlax.edu/student-support-services)

For statements regarding Sexual Misconduct, Religious Accommodations, Students with Disabilities, and Veterans and Active Military Personnel, please see: [https://www.uwlax.edu/info/syllabus](https://www.uwlax.edu/info/syllabus)

**Approximate schedule (subject to change):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics:</th>
<th>Text:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>January 28 Course intro; What makes Python so cool? Varibales, expressions, statements</td>
<td>Ch. 1, 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>February 4 Conditionals, iteration, lists</td>
<td>Ch. 5, 7, 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>February 11 Functions</td>
<td>Ch. 3, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>February 18 More iteration, list comprehension</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>February 25 Strings, dictionaries, tuples</td>
<td>Ch. 8, 11, 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>March 4 Files</td>
<td>Ch. 14</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>March 11 In-class development project</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>March 18 Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>March 25 Classes and objects</td>
<td>Ch. 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>April 1 Classes and functions</td>
<td>Ch. 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>April 8 Classes and methods</td>
<td>Ch. 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>April 15 Inheritance</td>
<td>Ch. 18</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>April 22 Python and data</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>April 29 TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>May 6 Project presentations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Final Friday May 17 at 12:15 PM</td>
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